

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF CARROLL L. "LEW" WATSON

## HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Lew Watson who is retiring as Mayor of the City of Lincoln, Alabama, on the 40th anniversary of the day he first took the oath of office.

Carroll L. "Lew" Watson was born in Norfolk, Virginia, to Carroll and Ruth Watson on May 9, 1943. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1961 and graduated from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor's of Art degree in 1965.

After graduation from college, he joined the United States Army where he served until September of 1969 when he retired at the rank of Captain. He later attended Birmingham School of Law and received his Juris Doctor degree on May 23, 1982.

Watson was first elected mayor in 1972 at the age of 29 when Lincoln's population was a little over 1,100. Over the years, Lew was able to help build local infrastructure and help recruit industries like Honda Manufacturing of Alabama, LLC which helped the city grow and prosper to what it is today. During his time in office the city's population grew by over 450 percent.

Watson's children include Carroll Lewis Watson and his wife Alyson, Samantha Bluhm and her husband Patrick, David G. Watson and his wife Azumi, and Jessica Laffosse and her husband Michael.

Mr. Speaker, we join his friends and family in this surprise celebration in his honor. We will miss Lew's leadership in Lincoln, and wish him the very best.

HONORING FORMER FIRST LADY MRS. CLAUDIA ALTA "LADY BIRD" JOHNSON

## HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former First Lady, Mrs. Claudia Alta "Lady Bird" Johnson. Mrs. Johnson, wife of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, was known for her prominent role in public service, and for her lifelong efforts to beautify public places across the country.

As First Lady, Mrs. Johnson promoted the conservation and beautification of our public lands. She believed that by making these civic improvements, we could help pay tribute to our great country. One of Mrs. Johnson's greatest rehabilitation efforts took place right here in Washington, DC, where she oversaw the planting of thousands of flowers throughout our Nation's capital.

Driving from her home in Texas to Washington, DC, Mrs. Johnson expressed concern

with the uninviting appearance of our Nation's Interstate highways. Ultimately, President Johnson signed the "Highway Beautification Act" into law in 1965, enhancing the scenic views of our highways and byways. In 1999, when Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt presented Mrs. Johnson with the Native Plant Conservation Initiative Lifetime Achievement Award, he noted that the First Lady had been a shadow Secretary of the Interior for much of her life. Today, we continue to enjoy the benefits of the First Lady's efforts to beautify our roads and highways.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the centennial of Mrs. Johnson's birth, we hold in great regard the value of these national improvements by preserving the beauty of our lands—through constant revitalization and conservation. We have Mrs. Johnson's unifying grace to thank for her contributions to the American landscape, and I am pleased to recognize these lasting contributions by the former First Lady from Texas.

HONORING MR. CABLE TELEVISION IN NORTH CAROLINA—JACK W. STANLEY

## HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 13, 2012*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, I take this occasion to honor Jack W. Stanley—a great personal friend for many years—as he retires from 45 years of service in the cable television industry. Jack has been a true pioneer in the industry, helping to lead its growth from a service designed merely to extend over-the-air broadcast signals into hard to reach areas to what it is today—an industry that makes available to homes across the nation hundreds of linear video channels, on-demand programming, high-speed broadband services, digital telephone services, home networking and home security services. It is an industry that is driven by innovation and private investment. And Jack has seen it all and helped make it happen.

In any conversation with Jack, it doesn't take long to find out about his roots—rural Georgia. He is proud to be a country boy. His professional life to this day remains grounded in the clay of Dodge County, Georgia, where he grew up in modest circumstances on his family's farm and learned the lessons of hard work and respect for others that he has carried with him throughout his career. Jack graduated from South Georgia Technical College where he studied Electronics Technology and completed an Executive Management Development Program at Denver University.

Most recently, Jack has served as the Regional Vice President for Government Relations for Time Warner Cable with responsibility for North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and Alabama. In this role, he has represented his company before various governmental bodies and coordinated its advocacy on important issues affecting the cable industry. Jack enjoyed many successes in this challenging role, including developing positive relationships with federal, state and local govern-

mental leaders and helping to ensure consistent and fair regulatory treatment for cable operators.

For the bulk of his working career, Jack served in a variety of operational roles in the cable television industry, including successfully leading cable systems in Georgia, Texas and North Carolina. He served as Division President of Time Warner Cable's Greensboro Division, where he managed a staff of some 700 employees. Under his leadership the Division was top-ranked in customer satisfaction and consistently exceeded the established business metrics.

He is known among his peers as an innovative leader who is committed to exceptional customer service and who has the ability to forge positive relationships with consumers, employees and public officials. In 1988, Jack developed the first set of service standards for Time Warner Cable, which quickly became the basis for national industry standards and are still in use today. This commitment to customer service was recognized with a Chairman's Award and the National Public Affairs Award of the Maryland and Delaware Cable Association. As anyone who has worked with him will tell you, Jack always has the customers' interests foremost in his mind in any decision impacting the business.

Jack carried this customer commitment over to his service to the industry. He served four separate terms as President of the North Carolina Cable Telecommunications Association where, in addition to being a terrific leader and gracious colleague, he was instrumental in establishing a college scholarship program to help provide higher education opportunities for children of members of the cable industry. Providing opportunities for others has always been a driving focus of Jack's career.

Jack has also been an active leader in the community. He was appointed by former Governor Jim Hunt to represent the cable industry on a task force where he was instrumental in establishing a partnership between the Association of Public Telecommunications and the cable industry in OPEN/Net, a virtual "town hall" that provided citizens direct access to state and local leaders via cable technology. He eventually served on the APT Board for two terms. He also served on numerous other boards, including the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research, and the Greensboro Partnership.

Jack enjoys golf—and he's really good at it. You want to be on Jack's team in business and golf—especially golf! He has a passion for history, and realizes his most important accomplishment is his family, which includes twelve grandchildren.

The depth of his experience and knowledge about the cable industry is matched by the depth of his character and judgment. When you shake hands in an agreement with Jack Stanley, you do not have to wonder whether you have a deal.

A modest man, who came from modest means, he doesn't seek attention—but he deserves it. Jack is a true Southern gentleman in the best sense of that term.

I join with all of the residents of the Sixth District of North Carolina in honoring Jack for his fine career and to wish him all the best as he enters, what I am sure will be, a very active and productive retirement.